

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036548

FOL RPT USUN 0488 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON PARIS 10 FEB

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0488

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, CN,FR,US

SUBJECT: FRENCH THANKS FOR US ROLE IN UNSC COMOROS DEBATE

1. BEGINNING WITH AMBASSADOR DE GUIRINGAUD, THE FRENCH MISSION HAS EXPRESSED THE WARMEST THANKS FOR US COOPERATION DURING THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S WEEK-LONG DEBATE ON THE MAYOTTE QUESTION. EMBASSY PARIS MAY WISH TO KNOW WE TOOK SPECIAL PAINS TO KEEP THE FRENCH INFORMED ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS CONCERNING OUR CONTINGENCY PLANNING AS PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL THIS MONTH, PARTICULARLY IN ANTICIPATION OF PROCEDURAL MOVES INCLUDING A POSSIBLE NON-ALIGNED EFFORT TO DENY FRANCE A RIGHT TO VOTE, AND THUS HERE VETO, ON ARTICLE 27(3) GROUNDS (MORE ON THIS SEPTEL).

2. THE FACTS OF OUR COOPERATION FULLY WARRANT FRENCH GRATITUDE, WHICH WILL, WE HOPE, PROVE HELPFUL IN OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL (OR OTHER UN) BUSINESS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. ONE CASE OF CONSIDERABLE ANALOGY TO MAYOTTE STRIKES US: THE PANAMA CANAL, WHICH INVOLVES SIMILAR CONFLICT BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE
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AND LEGISLATIVE. IT WOULD BE HIGHLY APPROPRIATE IN OUR VIEW

FOR THE POINT TO BE MADE DELICATELY TO THE FRENCH THAT WE WOULD
LIKE TO HAVE A LITTLE MORE COOPERATION FROM THEM NEXT TIME
THE PANAMA QUESTION COMES UP IN THE SC.
MOYNIHAN UNQUOTE
KISSINGER

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